

***Response to Amendment***

1. Claims 1-12 and 14/1/6, 15-22, 23/16,17,19-22, 24/16,17,19-22 and 25-30 are allowed.

***Conclusion***

2. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Two references: (1) JP 2002-240309 listed in IDS dated Dec. 22, 2005 published on Aug. 28, 2002 and (2) EP 1 236 576 listed in IDS dated Oct. 9, 2008 published on Sept. 4, 2002 teach a cap member having a cleaning member (a cleaning roller) stored therein and cleans an ink jet face when the cap moves from a closed position, which a print head with the ink jet face is covered by the cap member to an open position. Other than those two references listed in the IDSs, US 6,637,856, published on Oct. 28, 2003 also teach the same cap member. These three references are equivalent to each other, and have same inventor identity. However, in those three references, the preliminary discharge is into the cap NOT onto the platen (as the present application claimed).

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to shih-wen hsieh whose telephone number is 571-272-2256. The examiner can normally be reached on 9/5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Matthew Luu can be reached on 571-272-7663. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/shih-wen hsieh/  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2861

Oct. 17, 2009